

Message Text

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43/50

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00

IO-12 T-03 INRE-00 DPW-01 AID-20 PM-09 H-02 INR-09

L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 RSR-01 /139 W
----- 052220

O R 141121 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3026

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

CIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL UDORN

USDEL FRANCE

USIA WASHDC

SECDEF

DIRNSA FT GG MEADE MD

CINCPAC

CINCUSARPAC HAWAII

CDRUSMACV

COMUSMACTHAI

DEPCHJUSMAGTHAI

CDR USSAG NKP

DEPCDR 7/13 AF

CDR 7 TH RRFS RAMASUN THAI

CDR 7 ACCS KORAT

DODSPECREP BANGKOK

DODSPECREP NKP

CHSPECATS BANGKOK

56 SOW NKP

432 TRW UDORN

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CDR JCRC NKP
ARMA/ AIRA VTN LAOS
ARMA/ AIRA SVKT LAOS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 1877

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y F O R M R N (1877 VICE 1876)

CINCPAC FOR POLAD; MACV FOR COMMAND CENTER AND J3 08; 7/13 AF,
432 TRW AND 56 SOW FOR DO/ DI; MACTHAI FOR J2 AND PAO.

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, PINT, PFOR, LA
SUBJECT: LAO SITUATION REPORT - MARCH 14

REF: VIENTIANE 1836

BEGIN SUMMARY: MILITARY - GROUND ACTION INCREASED MODERATELY DURING PERIOD 12-13 MARCH. TWO MAJOR ENEMY- INITIATED ATTACKS WERE REPORTED SOUTH OF PDJ (OUTPOST POSITION LOST NORTHEAST OF PA DONG) AND SOUTHEAST OF THAKHEK (MORTAR FIRE BURNED 50 HOUSES IN VILLAGE). IN ADDITION, THERE WERE 13 MINOR CLASHES AND SHELLINGS, SIX OF WHICH OCCURRED SOUTHEAST OF PDJ NEAR THA VIANG. RLAF T-28 SORTIE RATE DECLINED SLIGHTLY TO 24 ON 13 MARCH; QUESTIONABLE STRIKES, UNRELATED TO GROUND CONTACT, WERE FLOWN EAST OF SALA PHOU KHOUN AGAINST ENEMY POSITIONS. LESS THAN 50 ARTILLERY ROUNDS WERE REPORTED FIRED ON 11 MARCH, ALL IN THAKHEK AREA. POLITICAL - RIGHTIST POLITICAL CLUB SUPPORTS CONCEPT OF NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL. NO RLG/ LPF MEETING HELD MARCH 14. END SUMMARY.

1. SECTION I - OBSERVANCE OF CEASEFIRE

A. MR I: NO GROUND OR AIR ACTION REPORTED. PL RAISED FLAGS IN AREA APPROXIMATELY 20 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF LUANG PRABANG ON 12 MARCH, BUT REMOVED THEM AT SUNSET.

B. MR II: ONE MAJOR ENEMY- INITIATED INCIDENT OCCURRED SOUTH OF PDJ EARLY MORNING 13 MARCH (122100 Z), WHEN ESTIMATED TWO ENEMY COMPANIES, SUPPORTED BY 150 ROUNDS MORTAR FIRE, ATTACKED AND FORCED FRIENDS TO WITHDRAW FROM POSITION 13 KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF PA DONG (SITE 05) VICINITY UG 113211 (THREE FRIENDLY KIA,
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SEVEN WIA, EIGHT MIA, 14 ENEMY KIA). SHORTLY THEREAFTER, A

MINOR ENEMY ATTACK FORCED FRIENDS AT NEARBY OUTPOST ALSO TO WITHDRAW (THREE ENEMY KIA). THERE WERE SIX MINOR CLASH/ SHELLING INCIDENTS SOUTHEAST OF PDJ, NORTH AND NORTHWEST OF THA VIANG, ON 13 MARCH (NINE ENEMY KIA). TWO ARMED PL SOLDIERS RALLIED TO UNIT OPERATING NEAR THA VIANG ON 13 MARCH. RLAF FLEW ELEVEN T-28 SORTIES, ALL IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS FIGHTING IN FOREGOING THA VIANG CONTACTS (FIVE BUNKERS DESTROYED).

C. MR III: ONE MAJOR INCIDENT OCCURRED APPROXIMATELY 14 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF THAKHEK AFTERNOON 12 MARCH (0700 Z), WHEN ESTIMATED TWO ENEMY COMPANIES, SUPPORTED BY 80 ROUNDS MORTAR FIRE, ATTACKED FRIENDLY POSITION AT VILLAGE NEAR VE 899110 (NO CASUALTIES, 50 HOUSES DESTROYED BY FIRE). ONLY OTHER GROUND ACTION WAS MINOR ENEMY ATTACK ON POSITION 10 KILOMETERS FARTHER SOUTHEAST OF THAKHEK ON 12 MARCH (ONE FRIENDLY KIA, TWO ENEMY KIA, " MANY" WIA). RLAF FLEW NO T-28 SORTIES ON 13 MARCH AND ONE AC-47 SORTIE PREVIOUS NIGHT IN SUPPORT OF TROOYS IN CONTACT SOUTHEAST OF THAKHEK.

D. MR IV: ONLY TWO INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN REGION, BOTH MINOR SHELLINGS OF POSITIONS SOUTHWEST OF PAKSONG AND SOUTHEAST OF SOUKHOUMA, ON 13 MARCH (ONE FRIENDLY WIA). RLAF FLEW NO SORTIES.

E. MR V: THERE WERE THREE MINOR GROUND INCIDENTS. IN AREA 30 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF BORIKHANE AND 50 KILOMETERS NORTH OF PAKSANE, FRIENDS ON CLEARING OPERATION REPORTED BEING ATTACKED BY SMALL ENEMY FORCE MORNING 13 MARCH AND COUNTERATTACKING LATER SAME DAY (THREE FRIENDLY WIA, THREE MIA). ELSEWHERE, ENEMY AMBUSH APPROXIMATELY 70 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF VANG VIENG OCCURRED ON 13 MARCH (NO CASUALTIES). RLAF FLEW 13 T-28 SORTIES ON 13 MARCH, NONE IN SUPPORT OF TROOPS IN CONTACT. ALL STRIKES WERE AGAINST ENEMY TROOPS, SUPPLIES AND TRUCK SOMEWHAT EAST OF SALA PHOU KHOUN JUNCTION POSITIONS. DAMAGE ASSESSMENT WAS SIX ENEMY PROBABLE KBA, ONE TRUCK DAMAGED, 16 BUNKERS DESTROYED/ UNCOVERED, THREE STRUCTURES DESTROYED PLUS THREE SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS AND TWO FIRES.

F. COUNT OF CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS: RLG DEFMIN ANNOUNCED SEVEN ADDITIONAL ENEMY VIOLATIONS, BRINGING TOTAL TO 214 AS OF MORNING 12 MARCH. OUR COUNT OF GROUND VIOLATIONS INITIATED BY BOTH SIDES IS 44 MAJOR AND 304 MINOR INCIDENTS THROUGH 11 MARCH.
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2. SECTION II - POLITICAL SITUATION

INTERNAL - RIGHT- WING SAHAPHOUMIN " POLITICAL CLUB", A VESTIGIAL REMNANT OF PHOUMI NOSAVAN' S FORMER CDNI PARTY, ISSUED STATEMENT

EXPRESSING TACIT SUPPORT FOR CONCEPT OF JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL, THUS BECOMING FIRST RIGHT- WING GROUP TO DO SO. NO MEETINGS BETWEEN LPF AND RLG WERE SCHEDULED TODAY, AND THERE HAS BEEN NO REPORT YET REGARDING TODAY'S CABINET MEETING, WHICH WAS TO CONSIDER HOW PRIMIN SHOULD CONSULT WITH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY REGARDING VIENTIANE AGREEMENT.
GODLEY

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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CIA WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
EA
JAKARTA
MOSCOW
PARIS

PHNOM PENH
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